

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further examination of the subject patent application are respectfully requested in view of the present Amendment and the following Remarks. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6, 8-18, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 6,298,128 to Ramey, et al. (“Ramey”) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,396,906 to Kaplan. Claims 7 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Ramey in view of Kaplan and U.S. Pat Appl. No. US 2002/0138296 to Holmes, Jr. Claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 have been amended. After careful review of the claims and references, it is submitted that the claims are in allowable form and therefore, allowance is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that packetized speech text data for post--processing research is created, and subsequently searched based upon a search term received subsequent to the contact for use in post-processing research (see e.g., p. 14, para. 0050). Independent claims 9 and 13 are similarly limited.

Claims 1-6, 8-18, and 20 have been rejected as obvious over Ramey and Kaplan. Ramey describes a system for determining a return phone number or address for responding to a message based upon a caller ID or the like obtained from the initial communication. Thus, Ramey simply matches a caller ID or e-mail address to a corresponding stored telephone number, name or address in a different medium to enable a return message in that different medium. The Office Action asserts that Ramey teaches converting voice contact information to text data in digitized form citing Col. 4, lines 59-64 and Col. 5, lines 15-22, and 53-64). However, Ramey in Col. 4 and Col. 5 does not describe converting to text or packetizing as claimed. Rather, Col. 4, lines 59-64 merely describe digitizing, Col. 5, lines 15-22 and 53-64

merely describe storage of the telephone number and names, and caller ID's. There is no disclosure of conversion to text using speech recognition or packetizing.

The Office Action also asserts that storing the contact data and receiving a search term from a searcher is disclosed by Ramey at Col. 4 and Col. 5, but Ramey does not store packetized text data as claimed. Further, Ramey at Col. 5, lines 53-64 merely describes automatically matching a caller ID with names during a contact, no search term is supplied by a searcher nor is it subsequent to the contact for the post-processing research as claimed. The original caller is clearly not the searcher, the search in Ramey is conducted by the system to identify an address, etc. based upon a caller ID automatically extracted from the telephone system without the caller participation or knowledge. Further, the caller does not provide anything subsequent to the contact or for post-processing research.

The Office Action also asserts that searching is disclosed by Ramey at Col. 5, lines 53-64, and Fig. 3. However, Col. 5 merely describes searching for a match to a caller ID in a correspondent database of caller ID information but not searching a data repository of packetized voice information converted to text data. Thus, Ramey does not teach numerous elements of the independent claims 1, 9, and 13. Kaplan, which concerns a telephone answering system, also fails to disclose the above features.

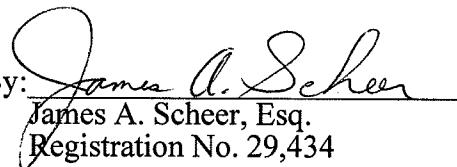
Together, the combination of Ramey and Kaplan fail to provide any teaching or suggestion of converting to text or packetizing, a search term supplied by a searcher subsequent to the contact for post-processing research, or searching the data repository. Similarly, Holmes, Jr. fails to provide any teaching or suggestion of the above described features. Since the combination fails to provide any teaching or suggestion of these claim elements, the independent claims 1, 9, and 13 are believed to be distinguishable over all the cited references. Further,

dependent claims 2-8, 10-12, and 14-20 have believed to be allowable because they depend from allowable base claims 1, 9, and 13.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits an early Notice of Allowance. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below listed number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, extension of time fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
James A. Scheer, Esq.
Registration No. 29,434

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WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza, 22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 655-1500